



READING & TEACHING *the Bible*

A three-year training course for
anyone who teaches the Bible,
or would like to start

ABOUT THE COURSE

Training to handle and teach God's Word

Do you lead a Bible study, teach children or young people, or give the occasional talk. Would you like to? This course will train you to handle God's Word faithfully and skilfully, whatever the setting.

The course is open to those with years of experience and none. All you need is a love for Jesus and his people, a willingness to learn and a desire to help other know Jesus better.

Every session will be a mix of teaching and discussion, as well as the chance to work through hands-on examples. We will look at writing questions, leading short studies, and giving talks- and there will be chances to practise these along the way.

There will also be some recommended reading that accompanies the course.



YEAR 1

Foundations

What the Bible is, how to study any passage, and the essentials of leading a study and giving a talk.

1. **Getting started**

What Bible teaching is all about, and your first chance to work through a passage together.

2. **What is the Bible?**

What Scripture says about itself, and what that means for how we approach it.

3. **How to read a passage**

A step-by-step method for studying any part of the Bible.

4. **The Bible's unfolding story**

How the Bible narrative holds together, from creation to new creation.

5. **From then to now**

Moving from what a passage meant then to what it means for us today.

6. **Leading a Bible study**

How to lead others to get to the heart of a passage.

7. **Giving a talk**

How to go from studying a passage to delivering a clear talk with one main point.

8. **Putting it into practice**

A chance to lead a short study or give a short talk, with constructive feedback.

YEAR 2

Narrative and Letters

Reading and teaching the Bible's two most common kinds of writing - and what they teach us about Jesus.

1. One book, many kinds of writing

Why it matters that the Bible comes as narrative, letters, poetry, prophecy and more.

2. Reading biblical narrative

How the stories work, and recognising what a passage is really saying.

3. Teaching biblical narrative

Teaching a narrative or parable without flattening it.

4. Who is Jesus?

What the Gospels show us about the person of Christ, and how to teach them.

5. Reading the letters

'Mirror reading' and following the argument of a New Testament letter from start to end.

6. Teaching what the Bible teaches

Drawing out a passage's great truths without losing the passage itself.

7. How does God save us?

Forgiveness, new life and union with Christ, drawn from Paul's letters.

8. One Word, many settings

Adapting for children, young people, newcomers and mature believers.

Challenging Texts & the Teacher's Craft

Reading and teaching tricky passages, and the importance of mature character for those who teach.

1. Living what you teach

How your own walk with God sustains a lifetime of teaching without burning out.

2. Reading the Psalms and Proverbs

Reading biblical poetry and understanding wisdom literature.

3. Teaching the Psalms

Teaching poetry without losing its beauty including psalms of lament.

4. Reading the prophets

Understanding the prophets in their own time and in light of Christ.

5. Handling difficult passages

Violence, judgement, suffering: teaching hard texts faithfully and pastorally.

6. Making sense of Old Testament law

What Leviticus and Deuteronomy are doing in your Bible, and how they point to Christ.

7. Who is God?

The Trinity and the character of God.

8. Here be Dragons!

Making sense of Revelation.

GET STARTED

How to join the course

The course runs over three years, with eight sessions a year (breaking around Christmas, Easter and the summer). Each year builds on the last, but it's a rolling programme, so you can join at any point, and if you cannot make one session we will be sharing catch up material.

When:

Sundays at 4pm

Where:

The Undercroft, St Nicholas Church Building

Sign up:

Visit: www.stnicholas-sevenoaks.org/equipcourse

